

## A Vote on Flexible Funding For Park Improvements

On May 2, Wyoming voters will be asked to change the way dollars can be spent under the dedicated Library Maintenance millage. Currently, any funds collected from the millage may only be used to support the Wyoming library building. The vote will give the community greater flexibility in utilizing dollars to make much-needed capital improvements to Ferrand, Gezon, Ideal and Jackson parks.

This request is not an increase in the amount of millage collected and will not cost taxpayers an extra penny.

In the last two years, more than \$650,000 has been spent on improvements and upgrades to the Wyoming library, working to ensure that significant capital investment will not be needed until the year 2027. The same cannot be said for the City's Parks, which need an estimated \$23 million in capital improvements to maintain the quality, caliber and safety of our park system.

The Parks and Recreation Department has lived off the same millage revenue -- with no increases -- for the last 20 years. Since 1995 expenses have increased,

while income from the operating millage has decreased. The current millage of 1.5 mills, which annually captures \$2.9 million, is used to fund recreation programs, maintenance services and basic facility upkeep; but cannot adequately fund major capital improvements which typically cost \$100,000 to \$600,000 per project.

The vote does not reduce Kent District Library services and does not affect the City's ability to maintain its library.

Learn more about planned improvements at [www.wyparks.com](http://www.wyparks.com).

MAYOR'S

## Message



Whether you're driving down a local street or turning on a faucet at home, you are connecting with the City. In everything we do, we work hard and are tremendously proud to be a big city that provides small town services.

Wyoming may not always share that pride and commitment often or nearly loud enough. With the start of a New Year, we are committed to doing just that with the #WeCare campaign.

To us, #WeCare means The Wyoming Community Cares. We live in one of the best cities in Michigan. Our 2017 goal is to share the inspiring stories about staff and residents who embody the #WeCare philosophy wherever possible to spread our community's spirit throughout the region.

You can get involved by including #WeCare in social media on Facebook, Twitter and now Instagram at [CityofWyomingMI](https://www.instagram.com/CityofWyomingMI). Share your photos and stories with us on Facebook at [facebook.com/CityofWyoming](https://www.facebook.com/CityofWyoming). Or go the extra mile and recommend someone within your neighborhood who demonstrates the spirit of #WeCare. Learn more at visit [www.wyomingmi.gov/wecare](http://www.wyomingmi.gov/wecare).

Please join us by being involved, being informed and sharing #WeCare.

## Way To Go WECO!

The Wyoming Employees Community Outreach non-profit recently announced their 2016 summary of giving.

WECO is focused on providing temporary assistance to children who live in Wyoming. Funding for outreach is raised through voluntary donations primarily from City of Wyoming employees.

In 2016 WECO assisted 169 kids, 59 families and proudly raised \$8,722.40 voluntarily by donation.

The City of Wyoming is proud to know that City employees have been "making a difference in a child's life" since 2003.

## News Briefs

### PARK AND ROOM RESERVATIONS

Planning a summer picnic, family reunion or outdoor get together for 2017? Lodge, shelter and picnic reservations are available at various parks throughout our park system.

We are also now taking reservations at "The Bookmark," our newly renovated multi-purpose room at the Wyoming Public Library. The cost for a three-hour time block is \$30 for residents and \$60 for non-residents; room capacity is 16.

To make a reservation or for more information on scheduled programs and events, call the City of Wyoming Parks and Recreation Department at 616.530.3164.

### KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY

Adult Book Club: On Tuesday, Feb. 21 the next book club discussion will feature Carlos Ruiz Zafon's *The Shadow of the Wind*. The club will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the library conference room.

Adult Graphic Novel Book Club: On Monday, Feb. 27, we will lead a discussion on Alan Moore's *Batman: The Killing Joke* at 6:30 p.m.

ESL Conversation Club – Presented in partnership with the Literacy Center of West Michigan, join the group and learn English with other adults. Registration is limited so please call the Literacy Center at 616.459.5151 to reserve your seat. The group will meet on Friday, Feb. 17 at 4 p.m.

Club de conversacion de esl: Práctica con otros adultos que están aprendiendo inglés. Presentado en colaboración con el Centro de Alfabetización de West Michigan. La registraci3n est3 limitada, favor llamar al Centro de Alfabetizaci3n al n3mero 616-459-5151. Para los adultos (debe tener 18 a3os o m3s para asistir). Fechas: Viernes, 13 de enero – 17 de febrero. Hora: 16:00.

Minecraft Club: Get your Minecraft fix and show off your world-building skills on Friday, Feb. 17 at 4 p.m. Registration is not required, but computers are available on a first come, first serve basis. If you have a laptop with wi-fi capabilities we encourage you to bring it along.

Let it snow 2.0: Your favorite adult winter reading program is back. Participate in print or at our newly simplified online program, [kdl.readsquared.com](http://kdl.readsquared.com). Read six books and win a travel mug with free refills from Dunkin Donuts.

Free Tax Assistance: IRS-certified student volunteers will prepare and e-file taxes for qualifying low-income individuals and families at the Wyoming library. Assistance will be available on Tuesdays from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. from Jan. 28 until April 8. For more information or for an appointment please call 2-1-1 or visit [taxhelp.davenport.edu](http://taxhelp.davenport.edu).

For further details on these and all of our many programs, stop in the library to pick up a program guide, check out our web page at [www.kdl.org](http://www.kdl.org) or call us at 616.784.2007. Follow us at <http://twitter.com/KDLnews> for all the latest updates on programs, events and resources at your library.

## Telephone Numbers

Mayor's Office .....	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk .....	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department .....	530-7250
Public Works .....	530-7260
Utilities .....	261-3550
Planning & Community Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor .....	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer .....	530-7280
Utility Billing.....	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	784-2007

## Meetings

**City Council Meeting** | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

**City Council Work Sessions** | on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

**Planning Commissions Meetings** | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

**Zoning Board Of Appeals** | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers.

**Parks & Recreation Commission** | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conference Room

## Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor  
 Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,  
 Council Member-at-Large  
 Dan Burrill, Council Member-at-Large  
 Kent Vanderwood, Council Member-at-Large  
 Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Council Member  
 Marissa K. Postler, 2nd Ward Council Member  
 Rob Postema, 3rd Ward Council Member

## Reach Us Online

[wyomingmi.gov](http://wyomingmi.gov)  
[twitter.com/WyomingCityHall](https://twitter.com/WyomingCityHall)  
[facebook.com/cityofwyoming](https://facebook.com/cityofwyoming)  
 instagram: CityofWyomingMi  
[linkedin.com/company/city-of-wyoming-mi](https://linkedin.com/company/city-of-wyoming-mi)